

For each question from 1 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.  
(10 marks)

1. They drove their lorries \_\_\_\_\_ the border between Malaysia and Thailand.
  - (1) into
  - (2) across
  - (3) through
  - (4) between
  
2. The whole town was \_\_\_\_\_ from civilisation by the flood waters.
  - (1) cut up
  - (2) cut off
  - (3) cut down
  - (4) cut across
  
3. The author \_\_\_\_\_ the book for the last eleven months and has yet to complete.
  - (1) is writing
  - (2) was writing
  - (3) has been writing
  - (4) had been writing
  
4. As Mrs. Lim felt faint after a fall, she \_\_\_\_\_ on the bed to recover.
  - (1) rest
  - (2) rests
  - (3) rested
  - (4) had rested
  
5. One of the men painting the house now \_\_\_\_\_ my uncle.
  - (1) is
  - (2) are
  - (3) was
  - (4) were
  
6. My neighbour \_\_\_\_\_ stamps since she was five years old. Now she has about five thousand of them.
  - (1) collects
  - (2) collected
  - (3) had collected
  - (4) has been collecting

7. \_\_\_\_\_ of the rice has been eaten already by the end of the day.

- (1) Many
- (2) Much
- (3) A few
- (4) Plenty

8. Either John or his twins \_\_\_\_\_ the keys to the house.

- (1) take
- (2) takes
- (3) has taken
- (4) have taken

9. The elderly man \_\_\_\_\_ you met at the park yesterday is a retired army officer.

- (1) who
- (2) which
- (3) whom
- (4) whose

10. Every morning, I take two slices of bread, one egg and a glass of milk \_\_\_\_\_ breakfast.

- (1) at
- (2) in
- (3) for
- (4) with

For each question from 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.  
(5 marks)

11. Kitty was filled with \_\_\_\_\_ when she found out that her friends could go for a camp while she had to rest at home.
  - (1) envy
  - (2) pride
  - (3) suspicion
  - (4) bewilderment
  
12. Kian \_\_\_\_\_ the chance of participating in the chess competition because he had to stay home to look after his grandfather.
  - (1) passed on
  - (2) passed up
  - (3) passed for
  - (4) passed down
  
13. The patient's health is likely to \_\_\_\_\_ in the next few days.
  - (1) decline
  - (2) deplete
  - (3) degrade
  - (4) deteriorate
  
14. His earlier criminal record led to him being \_\_\_\_\_ from entering the country.
  - (1) barred
  - (2) obstructed
  - (3) barricaded
  - (4) disqualified
  
15. Esmond is really \_\_\_\_\_ as he refuses to listen to his friends' novel ideas and insists that there is only one way of solving the problem.
  - (1) a stick-in-the-mud
  - (2) a dog with two tails
  - (3) a doubting Thomas
  - (4) a bull in a china shop

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). (5 marks)

On the evening of 5 September 1997, Mother Theresa died of a heart attack at her Calcutta (16) command centre. She was 87 years old. All around the world, people were (17) saddened by the news. On hearing of her death, French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac said, "Tonight, there is less love, less (18) compassion, less light in the world."

The Indian government gave Mother Theresa a funeral normally (19) set aside for important statesmen on 13 September 1997. After the burial ceremony, the usually crowded streets of Calcutta were quiet and (20) almost deserted as people mourned the loss of Mother Theresa.

- 16. (1) office  
(2) hospital  
(3) workstation  
(4) headquarters
  
- 17. (1) dismayed  
(2) distracted  
(3) dishevelled  
(4) disillusioned
  
- 18. (1) kinship  
(2) humility  
(3) harmony  
(4) benevolence
  
- 19. (1) allocated  
(2) reserved  
(3) preserved  
(4) consecrated
  
- 20. (1) barely  
(2) virtually  
(3) scarcely  
(4) approximately



**Date: 25 November 2015  
Reporting time: 8 a.m.  
Venue: Central Botanical Garden**

(Free shuttle bus will be provided from Yishun MRT station and Bedok Mall)

## Family Nature Hunt

Care for Nature, the hunt is now on!

**Limit to 200 family teams only!**

**A specially-designed T-shirt will be given to all participants.**

**In addition, each participating team will receive a goodie bag!**

### **How to play:**

1. Every family team is required to hunt within the vicinity of the garden for the answers to 12 questions.
2. Every family team has to visit all the activity stations so as to find answers to the 12 questions.
3. The hunt has to be completed within 1.5 hours.
4. The first family team to answer all questions correctly within the stipulated time wins the first prize. The other prizes are also won in order of merit.

### **Rules and Regulations:**

1. To enter this hunt, form a family team comprising 2 adults (aged 21 years and above) and 2 children (aged 12 and below).
2. Registration is open daily from 20 October to 17 November 2015 (9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) on a first-come-first-served basis.



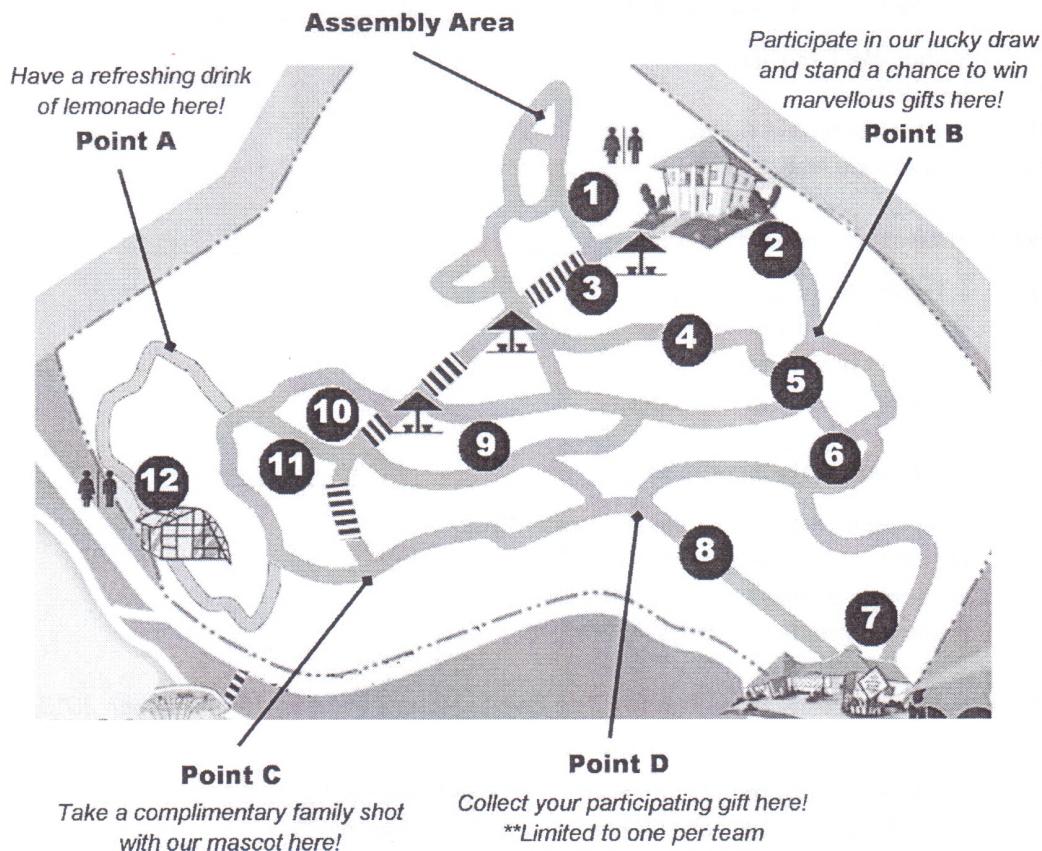
**We seek your cooperation in the following:**

- ❖ **Take nothing but photographs**
- ❖ **Leave nothing but footprints**

### **REGISTRATION COUNTER**

**GRANDIS ADVERTISING PTE LTD,  
ANG MO KIO HUB LEVEL 1**

THE MAP BELOW SHOWS THE LOCATIONS WHERE THE ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND, AND SOME ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.



**3 Tembusu**

A large evergreen tree in the Gentianaceae family, the Tembusu is native to South-east Asia. The trunk of this tree can produce very hard wood that can be used to make chopping boards. The wood can last over 100 years, as termites and weevils do not eat this kind of wood.

**5 Princess Vine**

This rare species produces a lushness of long, reddish aerial roots. It is a native to the tropical parts of America and has traditionally been used to treat diseases such as diabetes.

**8 Bambusa Tuldā**

This plant can be found in the biome of the Southeast Asian rainforest as it survives well in a moist environment with a lot of rainfall. The vegetation in rainforests grows in layers.

**11 Cork Oak**

It is the primary source of cork for wine bottle stoppers and is native to southwest Europe and northwest Africa.

For each question from 21 to 28, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer.  
(8 marks)

21. The Family Nature Hunt will be held at \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Yishun MRT station
- (2) Bedok Mall
- (3) Central Botanical Garden
- (4) Ang Mo Kio Hub

22. Each participating team will receive \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 1 T-shirt and 1 goodie bag
- (2) 4 T-shirts and 1 goodie bag
- (3) 1 T-shirt and 4 goodie bags
- (4) 4 T-shirts and 4 goodie bags

23. The main purpose of the hunt is to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) get people to get some physical activities
- (2) entice people to win attractive prizes
- (3) encourage people to appreciate nature
- (4) promote Grandis Advertising Pte Ltd

24. 200 teams have already signed up for The Family Nature Hunt by 15 November 2015. Mr. Teo and his family \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) are able to register for the hunt on 16 November 2015
- (2) are able to register for the hunt on 25 November 2015
- (3) are able to skip the registration process and come for the hunt on 25 November 2015
- (4) are unable to participate in the hunt anymore

25. \_\_\_\_\_ are not native to Southeast Asia.

- (1) Tembusu and Bambusa Tulda
- (2) Tembusu and Princess Vine
- (3) Princess Vine and Cork Oak
- (4) Bambusa Tulda and Cork Oak

26. The wood from the Tembusu tree can be said to be \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) solid and durable
- (2) edible and dry
- (3) delicate and precious
- (4) exquisite and fragile

27. Refer to the notice: 'Take nothing but photographs, Leave nothing but footprints'  
What is the intended message?

- (1) Visitors should refrain from bringing their personal belongings and leaving them in the garden.
- (2) Visitors should refrain from removing any plants and littering.
- (3) Visitors should refrain from taking photographs and walking on muddy areas.
- (4) Visitors should refrain from touching the plants and leaving their footprints on the soils.

28. Where can all participating teams be expected to receive a gift?

- (1) Point A
- (2) Point B
- (3) Point C
- (4) Point D

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

- |          |         |          |           |             |
|----------|---------|----------|-----------|-------------|
| (A) or   | (D) to  | (G) more | (K) as    | (N) even    |
| (B) were | (E) any | (H) when | (L) down  | (P) however |
| (C) had  | (F) one | (J) are  | (M) which | (Q) it      |

An orchestra is a group of musicians, playing instruments of diverse types and comprising almost (29) \_\_\_\_\_ number of people.

The ancient Egyptians probably had orchestras of a sort, (30) \_\_\_\_\_ there is verification of primitive stringed instruments and drums (31) \_\_\_\_\_ were used by musicians playing together. (32) \_\_\_\_\_, they had no means of writing (33)\_\_\_\_\_ their music, so it must have been simply used as accompaniment (34)\_\_\_\_\_ dancing or story-telling.

On the other hand, the ancient Greek musicians (35) \_\_\_\_\_ scales and a form of musical notation. Tunes were composed by musicians playing jointly, and so they had a type of orchestra (36) \_\_\_\_\_ like the ones we know today.

In 16<sup>th</sup> century England, there were already orchestras which were (37) \_\_\_\_\_ more on par with modern ones. The first operas, performed in 17<sup>th</sup> century Italy, had singers accompanied by small orchestras of mixed musical instruments - though probably half (38) \_\_\_\_\_ viols, the ancestors of modern stringed instruments.

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the boxes. (12 marks)

In South America, in the mountain caves along the coast, lives a bird called guacharo or  
(39)

oilbird. It is found in Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Trinidad. For senturees the fat of the young  
(40)

guacharos has been boiled. From the boiled fat, humans obtain a clear, yellow, ordorless oil.

The people use it to cook and for lighting for their houses.

The guacharos have large, blue eyes, short legs, weak feet and a strong, yellow, hooked bill.  
(41)

When it spreads its wings, they stretch out to aprosmimately one metre. The long wings make  
(42)  (43)

it capable in hovering and twisting, and enable it to move through ristricted areas in the caves.  
(44)

The colour of the guacharo is reddish-brown, spotting with black and white. Around its mouth  
are long, stiff bristles.  
(45)

The guacharos are nocternal. During the day, the birds rest on cave ledges and leave to find  
(46)

their food at night. Although it forages by sight, the guacharo is one of the few birds knew to  
(47)

navigate by echolocation in poor light conditions, using a series of sharp audibly high-pitched  
(48)

clicks for this purperse. Deep in the caves, the guacharo builds its nest. In the saucer-shaped  
(49)  (50)

nest were laid three or four white eggs. Both parents take turns sit on the eggs until they  
hatch.

Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

At four, American drummer Aaron Branson Jr. was already banging the drums at his musician father's jam sessions. "Or I'd be snoozing in guitar cases during the sessions," the 21-year-old drummer said in an (51) \_\_\_\_\_ with a local reporter lately.

The California native was in (52) \_\_\_\_\_ to perform at the Singapore Drum Fest 2013 (53) \_\_\_\_\_ at the Suntec International Convention and Exhibition Centre. Billed as the first (54) \_\_\_\_\_ drum festival in Asia, it featured a drum performance that (55) \_\_\_\_\_ eight hours every day.

(56) \_\_\_\_\_ Branson, also slated to perform were other celebrated (57) \_\_\_\_\_ and homegrown percussionist Jimmy Lee. Nonetheless, Branson was indisputably one of the festival's major (58) \_\_\_\_\_, performing with his trademark - blazing hand movements and foot speed.

He has been winning major (59) \_\_\_\_\_ since he was a teenager and now excels at several musical genres - funk, rock, rhythm and blues as (60) \_\_\_\_\_ as jazz, and has (61) \_\_\_\_\_ with musical greats like Billy Cobham, Sheila E. and Branford Marsalis. But for (62) \_\_\_\_\_ who has achieved much at a young age, Branson seems unfazed by his (63) \_\_\_\_\_.

"It's great to travel the (64) \_\_\_\_\_ to perform. That's an excellent perk," he said, "Meeting (65) \_\_\_\_\_ and checking out places like the Night Safari at the Singapore Zoological Gardens, now that's the real pleasure," he added. A musical titan he may be but it is evident that this virtuoso is still young at heart.

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

66. The soldiers were able to open the door. They kicked it with force.

\_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_

67. Eileen is afraid of the dark. She does not want to sleep alone.

Fearing \_\_\_\_\_

68. I will help you with your homework when I am done with my errands.

\_\_\_\_\_ until \_\_\_\_\_

69. The caretaker locked the door as he thought no one was in the office.

Thinking that \_\_\_\_\_

70. The notebook was an ideal gift for May. So was the pen.

Both \_\_\_\_\_

Read this passage and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

With snow whirling around him, Kenny drove two ice axes into the frozen mountain face. Slowly, he hauled himself another 25 centimetres. Beneath his spiked boots, a wall of ice and rock plunged almost four kilometres straight down. He still had about one kilometre to climb to the summit. Kenny was on a solo attempt to scale the world's highest vertical rock wall. Many had perished on the 8,125 metre Nanga Parbat, thus it was known as the Killer Mountain. 5

Despite the cold, a warm monsoon wind was melting the ice. With snowslides coming down every few minutes, Kenny knew he could not sustain long and needed to find shelter. He reached a vertical ridge of snow and started hacking into it with his ice axe. Kenny dug out a hole half the size of a fridge. He fixed a safety line at the back of the cave and clipped it to his harness and folded his knees under his chin. At least for now, he was safe. 10

Kenny had sent radio calls pleading for help. At the base camp, two pilots, Keith and Khal, were deployed to rescue him. They realised that the situation was worse than what they had visualised. The ice face was virtually vertical. With the rotor blades of the helicopter jutting out 5.5 metres, how would they get near enough to even pass Kenny a rope? Besides, vibration from the blades could also cause some snow above Kenny to collapse. This would hit the rotors and the helicopter might crash into the mountain. Nevertheless, the pilots went ahead. There was a hook under the helicopter. A sling was looped over the hook and the other end was attached to a bag filled with stones to keep it steady in the turbulent air. Kenny's only chance was to grab the sling, clip it with the short rope attached to his harness and then, cut the safety line anchoring him to the ice-wall. 15 20

The next morning, the pilots took off. Keith circled in and hovered about 12 metres above Kenny. From the cockpit, he saw Kenny swinging his ice axe wildly to catch the sling but it was nowhere near him. Keith eased closer. Even when Kenny leaned far out into space, he still could not grab the sling, as the bag of stones continued to swing outwards like a pendulum. 25

Taking over the controls, Keith flew the helicopter and stopped hazardously close to the rock face. The bag of stones smashed into the snow. Kenny grabbed the bag filled with stones and gripped it between his thighs. He clipped the hook of his harness over the helicopter's sling line. 30

Now that Kenny was attached to the helicopter, he had to cut the safety line that anchored him to the ice-wall. But with his frozen fingers and the air from the rotor blades beating down on him, he dropped the knife. Fortunately, the safety line broke when Keith tilted the helicopter to prevent the blades from hitting the ice. Then they rose into the air. 35

Later, the helicopter hovered above the base camp and lowered Kenny gradually. Faint with relief, Kenny saw the ground rise to greet him. Weeping, he fell forward and buried his face in the grass.

71. Pick out two words which suggest that Kenny was climbing the mountain alone, and state the other name for the world's highest vertical rock wall. [2 m]

Two words which suggest that Kenny was climbing the mountain alone	
Other name for the world's highest vertical rock wall	

72. Kenny was about one kilometre away from the summit when he was forced to abandon his plans. In the table below, state the danger that he faced, his decision and the measures that he took to ensure his own safety. [3 m]

Danger that Kenny faced	
Kenny's decision	
Measures taken to ensure his own safety	

73. Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3 m]

	True/ False	Reason
Climbing the mountain was a treacherous activity.		
Kenny intended to continue climbing the mountain after the monsoon wind passed.		
The pilots were determined to rescue Kenny.		

74. Give two reasons why the pilots knew it would not be easy to rescue Kenny. [2 m]

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

75. Why was a bag of stones tied to one end of the sling? [1 m]

---

---

76. From Paragraph 4, pick out the word which suggests that Kenny was desperate in his attempt to catch the sling. What difficulty was he facing? [2 m]

---

---

77. What had caused Kenny to drop the knife? [2 m]

---

---

78. What was the act of tilting the helicopter intended for? What was another outcome of this act? [2 m]

Purpose of tilting the helicopter	
Another outcome of this act	

79. Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the story. [1 m]

- \_\_\_\_\_ The helicopter headed to the base camp.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Kenny dropped the knife.  
\_\_\_\_\_ The helicopter stopped hazardously close to the rock face.

80. Why did Kenny bury his face in the grass when he reached the ground? [2 m]

---

---